

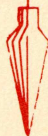
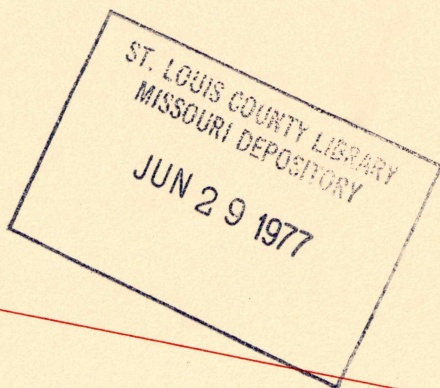
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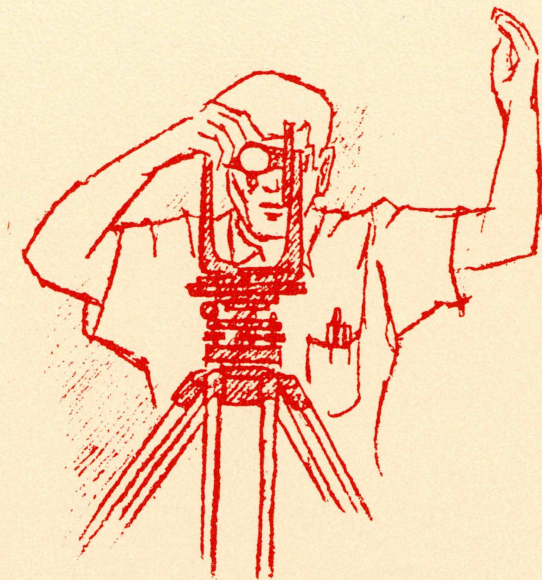
M I S S O U R I

LAND SURVEY



PURPOSE

Missouri statutes specifically vest ownership of the original land corner locations and accessories in the Department of Natural Resources and establish as a goal the recovery and perpetuation of these corners. To accomplish this, the Missouri Land Survey was created.



LAND SURVEY

DIVISION OF GEOLOGY AND LAND SURVEY MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

**DIVISION
OF
GEOLOGY AND LAND SURVEY**

**ADMINISTRATION
AND GENERAL SUPPORT**

ADMINISTRATION
INFORMATION SERVICES

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

AREAL GEOLOGY
& STRATIGRAPHY

WATER RESOURCES
DATA & RESEARCH

MINERAL RESOURCES
DATA & RESEARCH

APPLIED ENGINEERING
& URBAN GEOLOGY

SUBSURFACE GEOLOGY
—OIL & GAS

GEOCHEMISTRY

LAND SURVEY

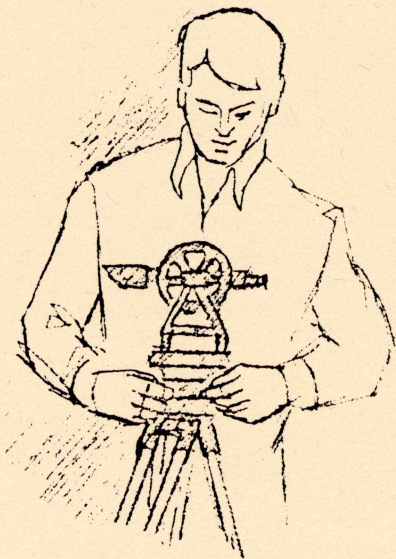
**ADMINISTRATION
AND STANDARDS**

**RECORDS
REPOSITORY**

FIELD SURVEYS

INTRODUCING THE MISSOURI LAND SURVEY —

The Land Survey is a part of the Division of Geology and Land Survey which occupies the Buehler Building in Rolla, Missouri. The resources of the State Land Survey are available to the citizens of the state and other interested persons by contacting the State Land Surveyor, P.O. Box 250, Rolla, MO 65401, phone 314-364-1752. Staff land surveyors will answer inquiries and provide services pertaining to land surveying in Missouri. Office hours are from 8 to 5, Monday through Friday (except holidays).



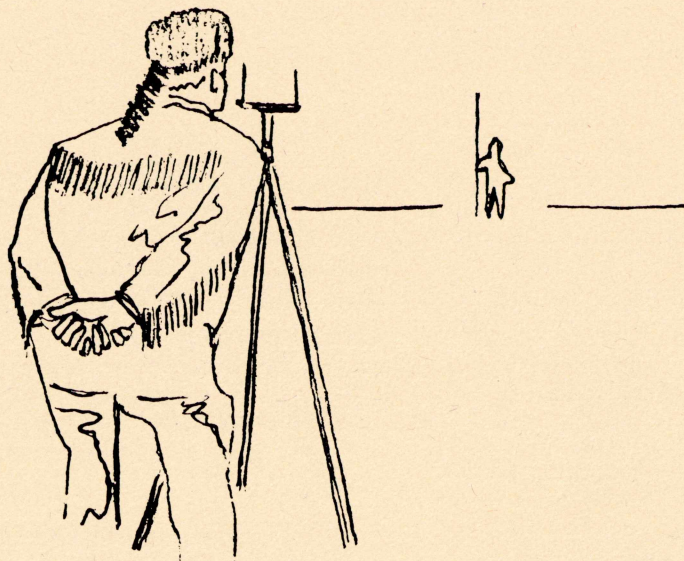
DUTIES

Duties of the Missouri Land Survey are:

- a. To restore, maintain, and preserve locations of the corners set by the original surveys of the United States Public Land Surveys and their subsequent extensions along with all pertinent field notes, plats and documents;
- b. To establish and maintain a record storage and retrieval system for all land survey records in this state;
- c. To extend geodetic control surveys to permit general use of the Missouri State Coordinate System;
- d. To prescribe and distribute regulations as guidelines for uniform and professional surveying methods and standards in Missouri.

HISTORY

On April 30, 1803 the Louisiana Purchase was consummated and all land not previously granted to private owners was vested in the U.S. Government. Inventory and transfer of the lands to private ownership was to be accomplished by a rectangular system of surveys using section, township, and range notations. Accordingly in the fall of 1815, contracts were let with Joseph C. Brown to establish an East-West baseline near the 35th parallel of latitude across what is now the State of Arkansas, and with P.K. Robbins to establish the Fifth Principal Meridian from the junction of the Arkansas and Mississippi Rivers, north to Iowa. These two lines are the bases for all the Public Land Surveys in the States of North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, and Arkansas.



The public land surveyors of Missouri divided land into townships measuring six miles on a side; each township was divided into 36 one-mile square sections. Much of Missouri had been surveyed by 1830 and by 1855 the township surveys were essentially complete. The corners set during this monumental surveying task became, and will remain, the basis of all real property in Missouri.

At the time of these original surveys and for many years that followed, agriculture was the main occupation; land was abundant and sparsely settled. Because of our land's rural character and its attendant aura of neighborliness, many of the exact locations of the original corners were neglected.

Many of these corners and their supportive evidence were removed in clearing operations for pasture, timber, crops, or other land use. Some were destroyed through necessity, some through ignorance of their importance, and in a few cases with malice or fraud as a motive.

This lack of attention to the corners, the original errors, and subsequent discrepancies made little difference long ago when land costs were a relatively small portion of earnings. With increasing population, relatively higher property values and urbanization, the minor differences of yesteryear took on major significance and will become even more important in the future. In addition to the corner monuments, the original surveys and subsequent surveys were recorded in the form of survey notes and plats. These documents became the basic tools for locating or replacing the original corners. In the past 40 to 50 years, thousands of these survey records have been destroyed by fire or lost by improper storage, ignorance, or theft.

In the mid-1950's the Missouri Association of Registered Land Surveyors felt that these poor conditions had existed too long and began efforts to have legislation enacted to correct them. Their efforts and planning were finally rewarded on July 1, 1970, when the State Land Survey Authority became a reality. Four years later, in the reorganization of State Government, the State Land Survey Authority joined with the State Geological Survey to form the Division of Geology and Land Survey in the new Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

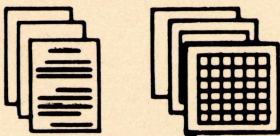
STRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS

The Missouri Land Survey staff is divided into three sections: Administration and Standards, Records Repository, and Field Surveys.

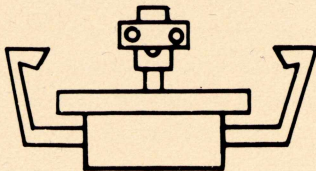
Program Administration and Standards

Program Administration and Standards, the administrative and coordinating section, evaluates and develops all projects, designs technical specifications and standards for land and control surveys, and advises and provides technical assistance on professional surveying and recording methods. This section also checks the accuracy of electronic distance measuring equipment and the calibration of steel surveying tapes.

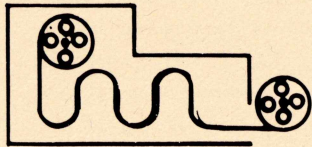
Records Repository



manually prepared data



camera



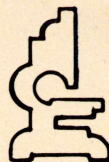
processor

The Records Repository Section has archival storage of all state land survey documents in one location, an efficient, uniform indexing system of these documents, and a professional staff to maintain files and distribute information.

Microfilming

Microfilm copies are produced of all land survey documents, including county plat records, county surveyor's records, and private surveys. Three copies of these microfilmed records are made — one is returned to the county, one is placed in the Land Survey archival vault, and the third is used as a working copy for distributing information to the public. All records are indexed by a computerized system, allowing for quick and easy retrieval.

The Land Survey accepts survey documents from all sources but participation in this program is voluntary on the part of county recorders, surveyors, and others. Records of private surveyors are welcomed and, after microfilming, are either returned to the owner or are placed in the Land Survey archival vault.

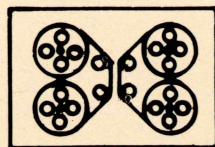


inspection

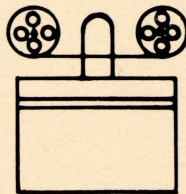
Technical Assistance and Records Distribution

Copies of information currently in the Records Repository may be obtained from the Chief of Repository on request. These copies are either in the form of paper prints or 4" x 6" microfiche. All products are at cost and may be certified when required for legal purposes. A special listing of available products and prices may be obtained on request.

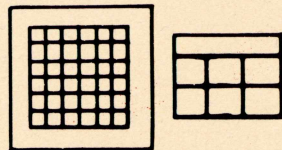
Technical assistance on recording or filing survey documents is also provided to county recorders.



roll to roll duplicator



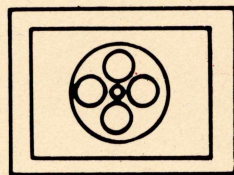
printer



paper copy, diazo fiche

Archival Vault

The vault provides storage for the very important original land surveys of Missouri, microfilms of current and past records, and computer tapes. A temperature of 20° Celsius and 50% relative humidity are maintained in an electronically cleaned environment in the vault. Documents are protected against fire by a special Halon fire extinguisher system.



vault

Field Surveys

The Field Surveys Section is charged with the physical restoration, preservation and monumentation of original land survey corners and other necessary survey points. Surveys are also conducted to extend geodetic control and technical assistance is provided on surveying methods.

Cooperative Corner Restoration

Under this program, registered land surveyors are assisted in permanently monumenting authentic original land corners. Registered land surveyors who recover original government corners cannot always justify the cost of permanent monuments for them. Monuments and fees for installation at GLO corners are provided under this program for:

- a. Original corners established by the original government surveyors under contract from the General Land Office for which sufficient original evidence exists to definitely locate the positions of these corners.
- b. Perpetuated corners for which records by county or other surveyors positively show that subsequent witness marks were placed and/or perpetuated when there was still positive evidence of the identifying witness marks placed by the original government surveyors, and provided the chain of perpetuation is not broken and evidence of the perpetuation exists.

Requests for participation in the cooperative corner restoration program may be submitted to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources by any registered land surveyor in Missouri. The request should include an "Application for Cooperative Corner Restoration Form" completed in accordance with instructions in *Specification for Search and Evaluation of General Land Office Corners*, published by the Land Survey, Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

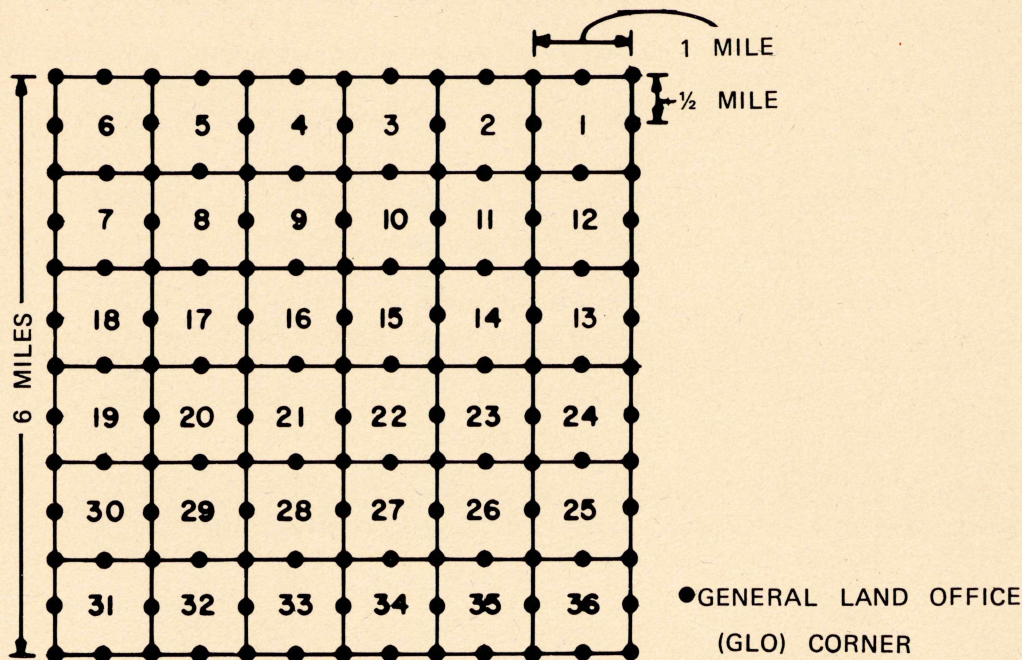
Township-Level Corner Restoration

This program is designed to reestablish and remonument Government Land Office (GLO) corners in areas where there has been extensive destruction of the GLO system. Restoration is usually initiated by property owners and public officials from affected areas and is carried out by Land Survey personnel, the county surveyor, or a local surveyor. The selection is made by the State Land Surveyor based on the size and complexity of the survey, as well as available funds.

Requests for corner restorations should be addressed to the State Land Surveyor, and should document the need for state assistance. The general policy of the Land Survey is to not reestablish corners that are currently in litigation.

Results of completed surveys and corner restorations may be obtained from the State Land Survey.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE TOWNSHIP



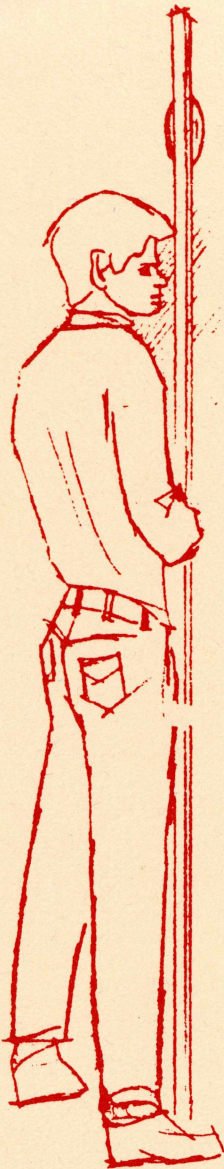
Corner Maintenance

To preserve land- and geodetic-survey marks throughout the **state**, Land Survey personnel and/or county surveyors make field inspections and surveys to insure compliance with 10 CSR 30-3.010, MAINTENANCE OF THE ORIGINAL U.S. PUBLIC LAND SURVEY CORNERS, and Section 256.160, RSMo (1969). *These regulations require all surveyors to file with the Department a document on all GLO corners which they have re-established. All violations are promptly reported to the proper jurisdiction for action.*

Horizontal Control Extension

Points of exact latitude and longitude are established by precise geodetic surveys for use as a reference framework for the Missouri State Coordinate System.

Projects under this program, because of their cost and multi-uses, are generally joint projects with local municipal governments. The Land Survey provides technical assistance in the design of the local control network, but actual field work is by Land Survey personnel and/or local surveyors.



MISSOURI LAND SURVEY

T37N
R10W R9W
S36 S31
S1 S6
T36N

STATE PROPERTY

WRITE FOR THESE PUBLICATIONS —

Publications of the Land Survey are available on request by writing State Land Surveyor, Division of Geology and Land Survey, Box 250, Rolla, MO 65401.

- **MISSOURI MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR PROPERTY BOUNDARY SURVEYS**
A realistic yardstick of adequate surveying performance in the state.
- **MISSOURI STATE COORDINATE SYSTEM MANUAL FOR THE LOCAL SURVEYOR**
Explanation of the coordinate system and its uses.
- **OFFICE OF THE STATE LAND SURVEYOR REPOSITORY PRODUCTS**
Description of prints, Diazo Fiche, indexes and other products of the Land Survey Repository.
- **MAINTENANCE OF THE ORIGINAL U.S. PUBLIC LAND SURVEY CORNERS**
Guidelines for maintaining the original corners.

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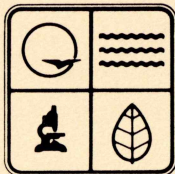
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Dennis R. Hayes, Land Records Technician

James O. Burgett, Land Records Clerk

Diane R. Plank, Clerk-Typist

THE STATE LAND SURVEY is concerned with providing information so that land in Missouri can be accurately, permanently and economically located by its citizens.



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF GEOLOGY AND LAND SURVEY

LAND SURVEY

P.O. Box 250, Rolla, MO 65401